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SUMMARY OF NEWS.

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Politics of Europe.

The Ship reported as running up from Saugor, proves to be the Danish Ship *NYMPHEN*, from Copenhagen, in March, but last from Sumatra. No other Arrival has taken place since our last.

The Madras Dawk brought us the Papers of that Presidency to the 3d instant, and from the *COURIER* we learn that the *ANDROMEDA* had reached that port from London the 6th of June. The Passengers will be found in our last Sheet. The only items of English News from this source are the following:—

The Capital Felonies Bill was read the third time on the 4th of June. Majority against its being passed, six—Division—115 for the Bill, 121 against it.

The Budget was brought forward on the 1st of June. At present we can only say that the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER's statement was more favorable than was expected.

We are sorry to have to announce the renewal of hostilities in Venezuela. The Proclamation giving this unpleasant news, is now before us. It of course accuses the Patriot General, Bolivar, of being the cause of the renewal of the war.

The Funds have experienced a still greater rise—the following were the prices on the 5th of June:—

3 per Ct. Reduced 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	India Bonds 39 40 pre.
3 per Ct. Cons. 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ex. Bills 2d.—2 3 dis.
4 per Ct. 94 $\frac{1}{2}$	Lottery Tickets 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 19s.
Long Ann. 19 1 16 $\frac{1}{2}$	Con. for Ac. 77 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7 $\frac{1}{2}$

The Debate on the Third Reading of the Capital Felonies Bill, on the 4th of June, will be found in our second Sheet, under the Parliamentary head.

From the English Papers in our possession we have selected several interesting articles of European intelligence of a recent date for immediate publication. Every account gives a stronger impression of the feverish state of the public mind in Spain; which in too many circumstances greatly resembles France at the time of the Revolution. The mob seem equally strong and ungovernable, and the monarch to enjoy so little of the confidence of the nation, that there is too much reason to apprehend for him the fate of Louis. If this unfortunate catastrophe take place, neither his virtues nor his own humanity to the Cortes will give so much cause of regret for the fall of Ferdinand. The dispersion of the force of Merino, and other active measures adopted, indicate no want of vigor on the part of the Government, and rather promise an increase of strength and confidence in itself—the usual result of defeated rebellion. Merino himself, if apprehended, will doubtless speedily make all the reparation possible for his crimes by forfeiting his life; but we trust more blood will not be shed than is necessary for security; and although the *COURIER* wishes mercy to be laid aside in punishing the Italians, we hope it will never cease to actuate the friends of Liberty even in the punishment of its greatest enemies. We leave it to religious persecutors, the Holy Allies and their advocates in England or elsewhere, to recommend unmerciful punishment being inflicted on those who stand forth in the cause of Civil and Religious Liberty; we hope these best of human blessings will triumph in spite of persecution and cruelty, and that such means will never be employed in so glorious a cause.

Liberal opinions are so evidently gaining ground in every part of the world, in spite of all opposition, that the little checks which occasionally occur may well be disregarded, as making no sensible difference on the general result. The Allied Sovereigns may be allowed to exult a little at their triumph in Italy: cruelty and insolent boastings may afford them a little temporary consolation. Yet while they bring back one square league of country under the yoke and lash of slavery, a thousand are emancipated for ever. In America, North and South, Freedom is advancing with a steady and uninterrupted course; and in Europe also, notwithstanding the leagues formed against it. The Allies evidently tremble for their own existence. Russia has taken steps against the Greek Insurgents, alarmed doubtless at the progress of the revolutionary principle; for otherwise an insurrection in the Turkish provinces would have been hailed as the best event that could happen for the Russian Empire.

In affairs properly called domestic, we observe a stir begins to be made about the approaching Coronation. The British cabinet are laying together their wise heads to devise a pretence for excluding Her Majesty from partaking in or witnessing that ceremony, or to adopt some measure (not yet explained) which may render it possible that permission may not be granted her to attend. It is amusing to observe how much the firm uncompromising character of a woman can embarrass these high personages. They have learned from experience, however, not to proceed with such rash precipitancy as they displayed in the Bill of Pains and Penalties. They have now no hopes of carrying their point by intimidation: and delays of the ceremony from time to time, without any good reason assigned, evasions when questioned, and angry threats when closely pushed, discover very plainly their distressing embarrassment. Perhaps there is a desire to distinguish His Majesty by a splendid ceremonial, in the honor of which the Queen is not to be allowed to participate, with the intention thereby to inflict another mark of disgrace on Her Majesty; but since the ceremony of a Coronation is by no means essential to the exercise of legal authority, it would certainly be impolitic for such a cause to make another breach between the crown and the people. It would be more wise to let the emblem of royalty rest in peace till the person entitled to wear it can put it on without creating dissension and disgust throughout the nation.

But however much the affairs of Europe may attract the attention of many of us, and excite our wishes, hopes, and fears, there is another country, which has stronger claims on our attention. That country where our homes, and most of our earthly hopes lie, and whose inhabitants depend on the wisdom, activity, and humanity of Britons for the silent amelioration of their condition; and the removal of evils which many ages of weakness, ignorance, and oppression have generated, and many years of wise government will hardly suffice to remedy. In the Asiatic Department of this day's Paper we give a Fifth Letter on the Adawlut System of India, which, with its Four precursors on the same subject, we think well worth the careful perusal and study of all who have any influence or feel any interest in promoting the happiness of our Indian fellow subjects. It gives us the more pleasure to publish Letters which have this for their object, because we are convinced, that if it be possible to make the Natives happier than they are the will is not wanting, but only a knowledge of the means and the power of doing so.

Exotics.—The following curious calculation shows that no less than 6,756 exotics were introduced into England in the course of the reign of his late Majesty; during the reign of Elizabeth, 578; 578 during the reign of the two Charles and Cromwell; 44 in the reign of James the Second; 298 in that of William and Mary; 230 in that of Anne; 182 in that of George the First; and 1770 in that of George the Second. Thus the total number of exotics now in the gardens of this country appears to be 11,970.—*Madras Courier.*

Approaching Coronation.—We have already stated that Her Majesty has expressed her fixed determination to be present at the approaching Coronation. The notice of Parliament we now perceive had been attracted by this declaration, and the *St. James Chronicle* of the 28th of May gives the following account of a conversation in the House of Commons upon this subject.

In the House of Commons on Monday night, the Coronation which has been definitively fixed for the middle of July, became the subject of an interesting conversation. Mr. Monk, after alluding to the vote of 100,000*l.* last year towards the expence of the Coronation, asked whether any provision was made by Ministers for the appearance of her Majesty at that ceremony, and if so, whether any additional expenses would be necessary for the arrangement to be made on that account? He said he could not believe in the rumour, that whilst seats were provided for Peeresses at the Coronation, there was no place appointed for the Queen—a rumour which he considered scandalous towards the Government. The Chancellor of the Exchequer endeavoured to evade a direct answer to this question; but when he began to be rather hard pushed, the Marquis of Londonderry came forward with a pointed declaration, that he and the other advisers of the Crown were not prepared to advise the King to take the steps which were necessary before her Majesty could take part in the ceremonial; and he concluded with a threat, that if any Members were prepared to revive the painful controversy in which the country was lately involved, they must take on themselves the responsibility of their discretion, or he should rather say, indiscretion.—*Madras Courier.*

Brazilian Revolution.—This is perhaps the most important event we have ever had to communicate. Brazil is one of the noblest countries in the world. She is the body and the heart of South America. Though of less extent than the *ci-devant* Spanish provinces, she is nearly as large as Europe, and possesses many advantages in her superior compactness, and greater facilities of internal communication. But her principal advantage, and one which she exclusively enjoys over every other European colony, consists in the absence of all distinction of castes among her inhabitants. The mulattos, creoles, and other people of colour, are not a despised and degraded race, but freely associate and intermarry with the white inhabitants. The form of trial for all free castes is the same, and, with a very few exceptions, they are all equally eligible to places of trust and emolument. Brazil has, therefore, the incalculable advantage of being, in a great measure, secure against the contests which it is but too probable will arise in other parts of South America, between the different races. The intercourse of society is more free and unrestrained; and the political energy of the nation must be greater, as it has less chance of being disturbed by domestic discussion.

With such great capabilities of improvement,—with the finest soil and climate,—the finest harbours and rivers in the world,—how rapid must be the progress of Brazil under a free government, and when the ruinous restraints by which the industry and enterprise of her inhabitants have hitherto been cramped and fettered are put down! A new and boundless field is here open for the investment of European capital, and for the exertion of the genius, skill, and industry of the unemployed and superabundant population of this quarter of the globe. We assume very little when we state, that before the expiration of the present century Brazil will be one of the most powerful and flourishing countries in the world. We shall take an early opportunity to show our readers the advances she has already made; and they will then be able to judge of those which she must make, after the gross and flagrant

abuses, which at present infect every department of administration, have been removed.

This event must be very annoying to the Legitimates; and we should not be at all surprised were the Autocrats of Russia and Austria to express their "most forcible reprobation" of the Brazilian, as they have done of the Spanish Revolution. Fortunately, however, the Brazilians are secure against their utmost malice. Whatever they have to fear from intestine commotions, they have nothing to fear from interference.—*Scotsman.*

Parliamentary Business.—A gentleman who has held an official situation in the Parliament House for upwards of twenty years, and kept a regular account of the duration of each Session in that period, has furnished us with the following account of the public labours of the two Houses during the present Session. The number of hours which the Commons have already sat exceeds those of any former Session since the union with Ireland, by upwards of 100; and, as far as any opinion can be formed from the present state of public business, the Session is not likely to terminate before the last week in June. With respect to the Lords, our informant states, that for every hour which their Lordships have devoted to public business, exclusive of appeals, the Commons have sat ten hours and a fraction.

Paris Papers.—The Paris Papers of Wednesday (May 16) arrived yesterday. The report of the flight of Ferdinand VII. from Madrid, in consequence of outrages offered to himself and the rest of the Royal Family by the populace, is contradicted. It is asserted, however, on the authority of a traveller arrived at Bayonne, that after the assassination of Vinuesa, the mob proceeded to the King's palace, and sent forth the most horrible vociferations against his Majesty, and his brother, Don Carlos; but the Authorities, with the aid of the troops and the militia, succeeded in re-establishing order. The Cortes, it is said, repaired in a body to the palace, for the protection of the Royal Family. The Empecinado has dispersed Merino's band, and made the greatest part of them prisoners. Merino himself escaped, with 19 horse. All the Monks and Canons of Burgos have been arrested; and Military Commissions have been formed at Salvatierra and at Vittoria to try the Chiefs of the insurrection at Alava. It is stated in an article from Nice, of the 1st of May, that the ex-King of Sardinia, Victor Emmanuel, is to repair to Modena. His refusal to resume the throne was, it appears, very much against the inclinations of his spouse, who has been talking of going to Vienna on the subject. Prince Metternich, in a letter respecting the affairs of Piedmont, has been pleased to say, "We now see how very easy it is to put down revolutions; it is only necessary for one king to have the courage to refuse to say 'yes,' and another to say 'no.'" Measures of severity continue to be pursued in Piedmont. General Giffenga, who accompanied Prince Carignano to Novara, and had at first only received orders to retire to his estates, has been arrested. There was found in the carriage of St. Marsan and Levi (who were taken, after the affair at Novara, with 10,000 francs and some papers) a correspondence between Giffenga and St. Marsan, the son, which compromises the former deeply. Some of the parties arrested, and, among others, Colonel Palma, are said to have gone mad. The latest accounts relating to Naples state that the Austrian army of occupation is to be reduced to 12,000 men who will be distributed among the fortresses. Two flying columns of Austrians had been scouring the country of the bands of brigands who infested it. One De Negris, who had been appointed Captain of Legionaries, had assembled some fugitives at San Bartholomeo, in the Capitanate, and there hoisted the standard of the Carbonari; but at the approach of the Austrian troops this band dispersed. Two of them were made prisoners, and immediately delivered over to the Military Commission. The following is the only additional intelligence respecting the Greek insurrection:—The Russian Consul at Jassy had published two Proclamations. In the first, he summons Ypsilanti and his Russian partizans to repair instantly to Russia and to wait there the pleasure of his Imperial Majesty: and in case of disobedience, he declares that they will be regarded as disturbers of the public peace, and treated as such. In the second, he calls upon such

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Moldavians as have taken part with the rebels, to return to their duty, and to obey the legitimate Authorities, as the only means of avoiding the punishment due to those who persist in rebellion. In consequence of these Proclamations Michael Suzzo had resigned the government and left the country.

Coronation in France and England.—It is a singular coincidence that the rumour of a coronation is now sprung up at the same time in France and England. The coronation in France has, we fear, no great meaning: and the coronation in England, having been so long deferred, is a ceremony which is at least not indispensable to the exercise of the Royal functions. Whether, therefore, it is wise and expedient, under existing circumstances, to endeavour to revive the late commotions, we leave to the public judgment.

The intention is, we suppose, to crown the KING without his Royal Consort. His MAJESTY, it is asserted, has a right to be so crowned. Now, whatever part the QUEEN takes upon this occasion, whether she moves or is quiet, she is sure to be abused. Her MAJESTY has no doubt upon that subject: a paper is set up on purpose to abuse her; and therefore abused she must be. If the QUEEN should remain tranquil upon the present occasion, she will immediately be charged with being conscious of the crimes imputed to her, and of not daring, under such consciousness, to come forth and assert her rights. If, on the contrary, she does put forward pretensions to be treated as others Queens of England have generally been treated, then will she be accused of doing that which, in truth, her enemies are doing, namely, striving to rekindle the late conflagration. It were best, therefore, for her MAJESTY to consult her own feelings only, at a crisis so important, without regarding the constructions of friends or foes. She possesses a clear judgment and an undaunted courage either to act or to suffer: she is formed to lead, not to follow a party; and the considerate part of mankind, whatever course she adopts, will be disposed to acquiesce in the propriety of her decision.

But if this be the case with respect to the QUEEN, we cannot help fearing that the King has not been left to exercise in his own judgment upon this question. Every one knows his MAJESTY's sense of dignity and propriety, the delicacy of his nature, and the refinement of his manners; yet all those qualities of refinement, delicacy, dignity, are the same in him as in others—they only vary in the degree: but unquestionably it would not be esteemed either delicate, dignified, or refined, if any husband in a station inferior to that of his MAJESTY should unnecessarily press himself into ceremonials of state in which his wife, from some offence, real or imputed, could not partake with him. A citizen of London, for example, of whatever wealth or consideration, would hardly seek the office of Lord Mayor, if his wife had so demeaned herself that she could not take the chair as Lady Mayoress: and men have been known to refuse peerages, because the partners of their bed, and mothers of their children, were not in a condition to participate in the honour. We appeal to his MAJESTY, therefore, on the strength of all those amiable qualities which he possesses, to decline a ceremony, the motion of which cannot have sprung up from his own heart, but must have been suggested by others. HENRY VII. did not suffer his Queen to be crowned with him; but the reason was that he was jealous of the love which the people bore to her.

The cost also is a reasonable subject of sorrow; for it will be perceived by the inquiries which took place in the House of Commons last night, that Ministers would not pledge themselves, to confine the expenses to the sum voted by Parliament. What then is the use of Parliamentary votes? and for whose pleasure is even that sum to be expended? For that of the people? Alas! Is there a man of common sense in the realm who would not "ten times told" prefer the saving of the money?

Accounts are received that Ali Pasha had surprised the camp of Pasha Bey, who narrowly escaped being prisoner, and had advanced to Prevesa; and that 6000 Albanians had returned to his standard.

Accounts from Madrid of the 5th of May, are of very melancholy interest. The country seem on the eve of becoming a prey to civil dissensions. Arrests and prosecutions are multiplied, and the laws more and more set at defiance. Every day brings an account of some new Guerilla band which is formed in hostility to the Constitutional System. In a Sitting of the Cortes on the 27th of April, the Minister of the Interior announced, that a body of rebels had been defeated at Ochandiano, one Pinero, their chief, killed, and 70 prisoners taken; and that the Militia of Logrono had in like manner beaten, at Campezur, the rebels commanded by an Advocate, D. Gregoire, who also fell in the action.—At Toledo, the National Guards have with difficulty kept the contending parties in order: the Archbishop has fled to Madrid; and on his arrival there, a battalion of the Guards, and a strong detachment of cavalry immediately sent off to assist in keeping down the spirit of discontent prevailing among the Toledians.

The official return of the gold and silver coined in the Royal Mint at Mexico, in 1820, has been published, and is stated to amount to 10,406,154 dollars.

The Queen has addressed a letter to Lord Liverpool (manifestly written by herself,) simply requesting to know what place is to be appropriated to her Majesty at the approaching Coronation. The answer is said to be, that no Ladies are to take a part in the ceremony. At the last Coronation the Dowager Princess of Wales and her younger children had a gallery prepared for them; and some accommodation of this kind will probably be afforded to her Majesty.

Three elegant boxes are making by order of the city of London, to be presented to Messrs. Brougham, Denman and Lushington, for their intrepid and eloquent defence of Queen.

The Marchioness of Worcester, whose death was stated in our last paper, was daughter of the Hon. H. Fitzroy, and niece to the Duke of Wellington.—The Marchioness was present at the King's drawing-room, and also at the ball, on the night of the same day, given by his Majesty to celebrate his birth-day, at which she danced. On the following day (Friday) she found herself unwell; and, in consequence, went into a cold bath, which had an effect contrary to what was expected. The Marchioness was on a visit to her noble relatives the Duke and Duchess of Wellington, at whose house in Piccadilly, on Friday morning, her case became extremely alarming, and at five o'clock she breathed her last.

An Act has passed, to light the turnpike-road with gas from Whitechapel Church to beyond the four-mile stones on the Ilford and Woodford roads.

The gas-lamp, newly erected in front of Bristol Exchange, is five feet three inches in depth, from the top of the ornament to the bottom of the lamp.

A Bill for lighting the city of Chichester with gas, has passed the House of Commons.

Store sheep, in almost every part of the island, have this year been bought in by the graziers at from 25 to 35 per cent lower than has been known for many years past.

Abingdon is to have a Grand Musical Festival on the 22d of May.—Salisbury in August.

There are already fifty-five horses named to start for the Gloucester stakes, to be run for at the ensuing Cheltenham races, and to which there is sixty-four subscribers.

Precaution.—The Novel just published under this title is of the Coelebs school. It will please both young and the old: the former will like it because it is full of marriages, and the latter because it inculcates in every page the value of precaution on entering the matrimonial state. The Author is extremely happy in his delineation of character. The portraits of Mr. Benfield, a worthy old bachelor, of the Jarvises, the Chattertons, and the Moseleys, are all admirably drawn; in short, we may congratulate the public on the accession of a new novelist, possessing talents of no ordinary cast.

Papers on the Affairs of Sicily.—The papers which have been presented to Parliament on the affairs of Sicily, mutilated and imperfect as they are, make some singular disclosures respecting our share, or we should say rather the share of our Ambassador, in the political changes which have led to such melancholy results in that island. Mr. A'COURT, in a despatch dated the 6th September, 1816, is directed by Lord CASTLEREAGH to acquaint the Court of Naples, that the Prince Regent of ENGLAND must decline all interference in the internal affairs of a foreign and independent state, except upon two suppositions—1st, "That a spirit of persecution is evinced against the British partisans in the island;" and, 2d, "That an attempt is made so to reduce the privileges of the Sicilian nation, as to expose the British Government to the reproach of having contributed to a change of system in Sicily, by which the freedom of its inhabitants had been impaired." Mr. A'COURT makes a communication to the preceding effect in a full council at the Court of Naples. The following particulars are worthy of attention:—The British ambassador having disavowed, on the part of his master, all interference in the political changes of the Sicilian government, is asked whether he has any objection "to receive a detail of those changes, as Mr. A'COURT, setting aside his public character." To this he states he has no objection; and, as Mr. A'COURT, he sits and listens till the clause in the new constitution comes, in which it is said that "his MAJESTY will at no time attempt to levy any taxes in Sicily beyond his permanent revenue, without the consent of the Parliament." Upon the reading of this clause, one of the counsellors proposes that the words shall be, "without the consent of 'the Sicilian nation,'" when to our surprise out jumps Mr. A'COURT, the private gentleman,

("Semper ego auditor tantum; nunquam ne reponam")

into the public ambassador; and, to use his own words, "to this passage," says he, "I most strongly objected." He further adds in his despatch, addressing himself to Lord CASTLEREAGH, "The importance of the word will certainly not escape your Lordship. It is, in fact, the keystone of our consistency; the omission of which would undoubtedly subject us to the reproach particularly pointed out in my instructions. Of what 'word' does Mr. A'COURT speak the omission of which is the key-stone of our consistency? The sentence is as obscure as the subject is delicate; but thus much is, we apprehend, very certain—that Mr. A'COURT's directions being not to interfere in the internal affairs of the kingdom, he does interfere upon a subject of all others the most intimate, and, as it were, a *secretioribus* of a nation—namely, as to the manner in which the taxes are to be levied—whether they are to be imposed by the Parliament (we suspect the Neapolitan Parliament), or by the consent of the Sicilian nation itself, expressed, we should apprehend, through its own local Parliament. If this our interpretation of a passage, perhaps intentionally darkened, be correct, we do certainly see Mr. A'COURT, in his private character, strongly objecting to the Sicilians being allowed to tax themselves. But, under any interpretation, we cannot understand why this gentleman should choose to divest himself of his official capacity, and then as a private person object to any measure under contemplation by the Court at which he resides. The rest of the papers consist of two decrees, by which the King of NAPLES effects the projected changes in the Sicilian government: but "of any correspondence which may have passed between the two governments, in consequence of the above decrees," there is nothing: neither is there any reply of Lord CASTLEREAGH's to Mr. A'COURT's despatch above quoted, approving or disapproving of his conduct. Perhaps, as that conduct was the conduct of a private gentleman, Lord CASTLEREAGH, who is very punctilious, might not think himself entitled to interfere.

Music.—The various sounds which one octave will produce, have been calculated at eight thousand one hundred and ninety-one!

King's Theatre.—An enterprising management is performing wonders in this establishment, in producing a succession of novelties to gratify and amuse the public. Last night (May 29) a new

opera, with the powerful sanction of the name of Rossini as its composer, was brought forward. It is entitled *Il Turco in Italia* (*The Turk in Italy*), and the characters were distributed as under:—

Selim, a Turkish Prince on his Travels, Signor DE VILLE.
Donna Fiorilla, a coquettish lady,.... Signora RONZI DE BEGNI
Don Geronio, her husband,..... Signor DE BEGNI.
Don Narcissus,..... Signor CURIONI.
Prosdocimo, a poet,..... Signor PLACCI.
Zaida,..... Signora MORI.

The story may be comprised in a brief recital. *Selim* with a taste rather singular for a Mussulman Prince, is travelling for improvement, and to acquire insight into foreign manners. He arrives in Naples and is smitten at his first landing with the charms of *Fiorilla*, who, although fettered by the marriage tie, and also, after the received fashion in Italy, by the attentions of a *cavalier servente*, does not disdain his princely passion. *Geronio*, the husband, the tamest of his species, surprises them together; but his indignation soon softens into submission at the frown of *Selim* and the oburgation of his wife, and he kisses the hem of *Selim's* garment in token of reverence. The Turkish Prince, in the true style of Mahometan gallantry, proposes to *Geronio* to purchase a fair incumbrance, as the husband in a soliloquy very gallantly terms her, and to carry her off with him to adorn his harem. The proposal rouses the spirit of *Geronio*, and he dismisses *Selim* from his house in indignation. The Mussulman thus foiled, determines to carry off the lady by a stratagem, and a masquerade furnishes the opportunity. *Don Narcissus*, however, the *cicisbee*, in conjunction with *Geronio* and *Zaida*, a lady formerly betrothed to *Selim*, and who has followed him in the disguise of a gipsy, form a design to counterplot the Turk. It succeeds. *Narcissus* appearing at the masquerade in the same dress as *Selim*, is mistaken for him by *Fiorilla*, who is convinced of her error, and reconciled to *Geronio*. *Selim*, on the discovery of *Zaida*, finds his passion for her return, and redeems the vows he had plighted. *Prosdocimo*, the poet, is a sort of supernumerary personage, who considers the adventures and situations of the other characters only as they may furnish subjects for a drama which he is composing. It is evident that this story is founded on a style of manners not tolerated in this country; and therefore subject, in some degree, to reprehension on that account; but the moral, buried under the double veil of the language and the music, is never obtruded into notice, and is, perhaps, by good fortune, not generally intelligible. In imported dramas, we are compelled, sometimes, to defer to the notions of the country from whence it is derived. We are more disposed to object to the introduction of the poet into the piece, who has nothing to do with the action, except to enumber it by his foolish remarks on what is passing. The music is charming; full of the lightness and fancy of Rossini. It is not, we believe, wholly original, but it is a cento, in some measure, from his other operas. A very fine bravura air in the second act is evidently not of his composition. Signora Ronzi de Begni and Signor de Begni, made their first appearance before an English audience in this opera. They are both from the *Theatre Italien* of Paris, a circumstance that alone implies distinction in their profession. The lady is remarkable for the delicate tone of her voice, which is of an excellent quality, but hardly powerful enough for so large a theatre. Her execution and science are indispensible. She is extremely valuable, too, as an actress. Many of her traits remind us of Mademoiselle Foder. Signor de Begni is a great acquisition to this stage. His voice also is deficient in power, but it is one of the most pure and flexible, for a bass, that we have ever heard. As an actor he is gifted with a rare talent for humour, which is always chaste and effective, and seldom degenerates into buffoonery. Signor Curioni was more at home than on the evening of his debut, and therefore appeared to much greater advantage. Signor De Ville is a practised singer, but his manner wanted spirit for the character of *Selim*. Signor Placcia did all that was practicable for the poet; and Signora Mori, as *Zaida*, displayed her usual science. The house was literally crowded at an early hour.

PARLIAMENTARY.

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Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1821.

CAPITAL FELONIES.

Sir J. MACKINTOSH, in moving the third reading of the Forgery Punishment Mitigation Bill, said, that from the objections which had been made to this measure on former discussions, he felt it necessary to submit a few observations to the House upon the present occasion. He should endeavour to state, as clearly and briefly as possible, the changes which this Bill proposed to enact—the principles upon which those changes rested—with the nature and the grounds of the exceptions which he had been urged to introduce into the Bill, and the ground upon which he felt it his duty to oppose any further exceptions. It was of course competent to any Gentleman to propose such exceptions as he thought proper in the present condition of the Bill. He did not mean to overstate the case when he said that which he presumed would hardly be denied, namely, that the House, in agreeing to the second reading and the committal of this Bill, had done what was tantamount to a Resolution, that it was expedient to mitigate the punishment of forgery. It was indeed generally admitted that severity of punishment was favourable to impunity; but the House, by the progress which it had made in this Bill, had made a direct manifestation of its opinion upon this subject. But this was not the first occasion in which that House had borne testimony to the principle, that the mitigation of punishment was the best mode of preventing crime; for by the 52d of the late King, no less than eight capital felonies were repealed with respect to the collection of the revenue, all these offences being made clerigiable, and experience since had proved the success of the measure for the object which the Legislature had in view. Again, we had the experience of the law as to bleaching grounds, which was so amply and ably stated by his hon. friend (Mr. Buxton) on a former evening, and which, by abating punishment, had served to prevent crime (*hear, hear, hear*). But a farther recognition of the rectitude of this principle was afforded by the Legislature, in the repeal of some capital felonies within the last Sessions. It was, indeed, a happy omen, that within the first year of the present reign more capital felonies had been repealed than within the reign of any monarch since that of Edward 1st, and he had no doubt whatever, that this event would be much more honoured hereafter than many other things which had occasioned much more of public observation. But he had a farther and a high authority in support of his principle which must operate with peculiar force. It had been observed, that the advocates for the mitigation of punishment were actuated by weak or womanish feeling. But he apprehended that no such feeling could be ascribed to a religious persecutor, who, indeed, least of all other tyrants, was likely to evince any tenderness for his victim. Upon that horrid breach of faith and humanity, the revocation of the Edict of Nantz by Louis 14th, which condemned so many Protestants to a dungeon, it was also ordained by the Tyrant, that any one who should attempt to escape from a prison or from France should be guilty of a capital crime. This tyranny was consummated; any Protestant who avowed his religion being consigned to a prison, while such as attempted to seek safety in flight, were consigned to the scaffold. But the latter edict was repealed the very year after it was issued, and the punishment of death commuted for that of a sentence to the galleys. No effluviary of feeling could surely be imputed to Louis XIV. especially towards the Protestants. But the cause for the mitigation of the punishment was distinctly stated in the edict by which it was decreed. It was because the punishment of working in the galleys was deemed more efficient to prevent the flight of marines and artisans, and because prosecutors and witnesses could not be found to come forward while the more severe punishment remained. He could not, he thought, appeal to a higher authority than this in support of his principle. Had the Government, indeed, been better, the authority would have been worse; for, where all the malignant ingenuity of despotism was notoriously exercised to prevent what it deemed an offence, experience served to show that the laws were most impotent where they were most severe (*hear, hear, hear*). The hon. and learned gent. here proceeded to observe upon the exceptions to the principle of his Bill, which he had been induced to bring forward. But before he entered into those exceptions, he expressed a hope that no one would attempt to maintain that exceptions to the principle of any legislative measure amounted to any thing like an abandonment of that principle; for no man could consistently argue that a moral principle should be deemed as fixed and unchangeable as a geometrical proposition—for any moral principle must, in legislation, admit of modifications, according to the opinions, the passions, the prejudices, and the habits of mankind. Even in an arbitrary Government its decree must occasionally bend to the prejudices or impressions of great bodies of people; and it would ill become any man legislating for a free nation to disregard any prevalent notions. To such notions, then, he felt it his duty to concede. But no one could expect to carry any measure in a country like this without some

concession to the opinions of others. Any person, indeed, attempting political reformation, must be reconciled to some concession and compromise, or he could not succeed. He regretted, as much as any man, the necessity of making the exceptions to the principle of this Bill, which he had been urged to propose; for, according to his own opinion, the better course would be the universal adoption of his principle. It was not for him, however, to discard the opinion of those who were willing to co-operate with him to a certain extent, particularly where such co-operation was essential to the attainment of any portion of success. Now, as to the exceptions which he had proposed, the paper of the Bank of England was excepted from the operation of the law, not for the sake of the Bank of England, because they never paid their forged notes, but for the sake of the community, because their paper circulated through the hands of the poorest and most negligent persons, who had no opportunity of protecting themselves against the consequences of such forgery by caution and examination. There was no case of private forgery which bore any resemblance to this offence with respect to the consequences which resulted from it. The paper of the Bank of England passed through the hands of the whole community without distinction, whereas private negotiable securities passed, for the most part, through the hands of men of opulence, who were professionally trained to the exercise of the greatest vigilance and acuteness in their examination. This was a broad and striking distinction between the forgery of the circulating paper of the kingdom, and the forgery of private securities. The same arguments were applicable to country bank notes, inasmuch as the whole body of the country bank notes constituted a general circulating medium. He was aware that a Petition had that day been presented on the part of the bankers of London and Westminster, praying the House to make no difference in the punishment for forgery on the Bank of England, and the forgery of private securities. He denied, however, that this Petition was to be considered as a Petition against the Bill. There was nothing in its colour or character which opposed the present Bill; on the contrary, its prayer would be satisfied if the punishment of death were abolished altogether. Nor did he rest here, for he had a positive assurance that the opinion of many Gentlemen who had subscribed their names to this Petition was favorable to the total abolition of the punishment of death. It was signed by Mr. Barnett, Mr. Kinnaird, and by many gentlemen who voted for the second reading of the Bill. He was at liberty, therefore, to consider this a Petition against the exceptions, and not against the principle. Another circumstance worthy of observation was the silence of these Petitioners upon one important fact, upon which they were more competent to give an opinion than any other body of men, a fact which had been proved before the Committee, by several eminent bankers of the city of London, namely, that a great majority of the cases of private forgery went unpunished, in consequence of the severity of the existing laws. This petition was brought before the House at the last stage of the bill, after the measure had been two years under discussion, yet it abstained from contradicting that statement of a fact with which they must be acquainted, and upon which the whole argument, with regard to capital punishment in cases of forgery, rested. Either these petitioners were adverse to the bill, or they were not. If they were not adverse to the bill, then he was entitled to take this petition as a petition against the exception: if, on the other hand, as he feared, a numerical majority of the Petitioners were adverse to it, then out of their mouths he would extract the confession, that it was impossible to contradict the fact, that a majority of the cases of private forgery escaped in consequence of the severity of the punishment. No authority, however high—no character, however respectable—no gestures, however significant or expressive (the honorable member alluded, we believe, to Lord Londonderry and the Attorney General), could make up for the silence of the Petitioners—for the tacit admission of a fact which they were unable to contradict. It had been said, that the persons who now carried on the infamous trade of forging bank notes, were likely to turn themselves to the forgery of private securities upon the small notes being withdrawn from circulation. But what, he would ask, had the manufacture of paper to do with the forgery of private securities? How was an ignorant Birmingham ruffian to become acquainted with the hand-writing of eminent bankers, and to acquire a knowledge of those peculiarities which would enable him to forge private securities? The forgery of such instruments was not founded upon a mere knowledge of the hand-writing of the drawer or acceptor, but upon a certain knowledge of all the circumstances connected with commercial transactions, which it was impossible for such obscure and miserable ruffians to acquire. Was it likely that if persons of this description attempted to pay a bill, any man would be so negligent as to receive it without making the most right scrutiny as to the means by which they came by it? Or, admitting that any man could be so careless of his own interests, was the House to be called upon to guard such negligence by the gallows, because persons were to be found who were not willing to use that common vigilance which it was their duty and their interest to exercise? He could not imagine a mode of villainy to which it was less likely that the forgers of

Bank-notes should turn themselves than that of private forgery. He was ready, for the reasons which he had before stated to the House, to put Country Bank-notes upon the same footing as Bank of England notes; but there was no ground whatever for extending the exception to private securities. With regard to wills, he was ready to include them in the exception; for these instruments stood not upon principle, but upon circumstances peculiar to themselves. There were two peculiarities which distinguished those instruments—one, that in case of their forgery, the best and most conclusive witness could not be produced, from the very nature of the crime, and the other, that from the same cause no human caution could guard against it. (*Lord Londonderry and the Attorney-General smiled.*) He could not conceive what comic properties belonging to the subject had excited the mirth of the Noble Lord and his Honourable and Learned co-adjutor. He should, except wills for the reason which he had stated to the House, and he was ready to put the forgery of certificates of marriage registers upon the same footing. With respect to that part of the Bill, however, which related to uttering forged notes, he would make no concession. The state of the law, with regard to the punishment for uttering, he could not but regard as one of the most unfortunate occurrences in the administration of justice in this country. To remove the confusion and uncertainty which now prevailed, it was necessary to make the offence of uttering no longer subject to discretion, but to positive rule; to reduce crimes to classes, and to deal with those classes by positive enactments, instead of legislating at discretion. He admitted that some cases of uttering might be of an aggravated character, but there were many also of a most alleviated description, and the only criterion capable of being reduced to a rule, would be to make a second conviction only subject to the exception. It was necessary at once to do away with that anomaly in the administration of justice, by which the prerogative of mercy was transferred from the Crown to the Bank of England, and he was persuaded that that Corporation would be glad to be relieved from the exercise of so painful, so invidious, and so unpopular a discretion. The present state of the law had surrounded the offence of Forgery with a sort of compassion, which did not naturally belong to it, and which extended to the wholesale manufacturer, as well as to the poor man who was almost innocently drawn into the offence of uttering a forged Note. For these reasons he was anxious to divest the higher crime of that aid, and to separate the two offences by a clear and accurately defined barrier. With regard to the punishment, he was willing to substitute imprisonment and hard labour for transportation, in compliance with the suggestions of Gentlemen, for whose opinion, he entertained a great respect, though he was far from being convinced of the utter inefficacy of the punishment of transportation. There could be no difficulty, he apprehended, in rendering the punishment of imprisonment and hard labour, either on shore or in the hulks, sufficiently terrible. Public labour had been suggested as a desirable expedient, but that was a punishment to which, he thought, recourse ought not to be had, except in the case of irreclaimable criminals. At present there were 14 utterers of forged notes annually executed; and supposing the crime to continue the same, that Legislature must indeed be barren of expedients, and ignorant of the elements of the science of legislation, if they could not contrive to make the punishment of imprisonment and hard labour sufficiently terrible to 14 persons annually convicted of the crime of uttering. If the Bill should be read a third time, it was his intention to propose two Amendments; one, for the insertion of a few words in the preamble; and the other for the omission of the clause, offering a reward on detection. Though he had always objected to the principle of rewards, he had been willing to insert that clause, from the peculiar circumstances in which the Bank were placed. Those circumstances were now changed, and the clause, therefore, was no longer necessary.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said, that the alterations by which the Honourable and Learned Gentleman imagined that he should conciliate the opponents of the Bill, tended to strengthen the objections which he (the Attorney-General) originally had to the principle of the measure. The Honourable and Learned Gentleman admitted the necessity of the punishment of death in the excepted cases (*cries of "no, no," from the Opposition benches*). He had certainly so understood his Honourable and Learned Friend, but why, he would ask, did not the exceptions of his Honourable and Learned Friend go further? Why had he not extended the exceptions of Bills of Exchange of country bankers, as well as to their promissory notes? The Honourable and Learned Gentleman excepted transfers of public stock. Did he mean to except Government stock alone? (*Sir J. Mackintosh assented*). Why, then, he would ask, were not Bank Stock, South Sea Stock, and East India Stock included in the exception? Why were not deeds and bonds protected as well as wills? The Honourable and Learned Gentleman ought to have brought in a Bill to amend the law in the specific cases to which it was applicable, instead of bringing in a Bill to abolish the punishment of death in all cases of forgery, in which he was afterwards obliged to introduce so many exceptions, as in effect to destroy the principle of the Bill. It was said, that the severity of punishment

had no effect in preventing the frequency of the crime, but he denied that the punishment of death had been found ineffectual, except with the regard to the forgery of 11. Bank of England notes, and now that these notes were withdrawn from circulation, there was no pretence for the measure proposed by the Honourable and Learned Gentleman. The hon. and learned gentleman appeared to argue as if the reformation of the offender was the only object of punishment, not considering that there was another and more important object, as far as society was concerned, namely to prevent the repetition of the offence. His honorable and learned friend had alluded to the mitigation of punishment in cases of offences committed in bleaching grounds. Now it was a remarkable fact, that in the two years following the repeal of the capital punishment in those cases, the number of prosecutions in the county of Lancaster, where those offences were principally committed, greatly increased. He was aware that it would be contended that this was one of the beneficial effects of mitigating the punishment. If the number of prosecutions were less, then Honourable Gentlemen argued that crime was diminished by mitigating the punishment; if, on the other hand, the number was increased, then it was said that the mitigation of punishment had the beneficial effect of inducing prosecutors to come forward. In regard to burglary, there could not, consistently with the public advantage, be any scale of punishment. At the same time, there must be a discretionary power in the administration of that punishment. The law expressly declared that the punishment of burglary should be death, but it also afforded the means of mitigation. It thereby allowed the man who broke into a house in the night, and a boy, who passing a shop window, dashed his hand through a pane of glass and snatched out a watch, to be differently treated. He was utterly at a loss to understand how the certainty of transportation or imprisonment, with the chance of capital punishment superadded, could have a less powerful effect in deterring from the commission of the crime than the mere punishment of transportation or imprisonment. He was utterly ignorant of all the workings of the human mind, if the argument of his Honourable and Learned Friend opposite on that subject were well-founded. On the contrary, it appeared to him that as the law now stood, when a man contemplated breaking into a neighbour's house at night, he would say, "let me be careful, I know that if I am detected, besides the certainty of being transported or imprisoned, I run the chance of capital punishment." But if his Honourable and Learned Friend's Bill were to pass into a law, the same man would say, "I run no risk of loss of life; the most that I can suffer is imprisonment for a few years." With respect to the punishment attached to the uttering of forged notes, he maintained that the punishment by law should be that suitable to the most aggravated case, and leave the administration of it to the discretion of the Executive Govt. With a recent exception, there had not been for years an instance of the detection of the actual forger of notes. It was necessary, therefore, to fix the capital punishment on the individual next in guilt, namely, the utterer; without whom the labours of the forger would be unavailing to him. It was a most fallacious argument on the part of the Honourable and Learned Gentleman, that because, on the average of the last seven years, only 14 persons had been annually executed on this score, it was only necessary to provide for that number. He forgot that he must take the number of persons convicted, and the annual average of those was between 170 and 180. How were those to be provided for? His Honourable and Learned Friend said that Government must introduce a secondary punishment. If imprisonment and hard labour were to be that punishment, prisons must be built, which would become the objects of detestation in every county in England. A great deal had been said the other evening of the expence of the Penitentiary in the neighbourhood of of the House of Commons; but here would be Penitentiaries all over the kingdom. Into the details of the measure, incorrect as he thought them, he would not enter. His objection was to the principle; and he would therefore move as an amendment that the Bill should be read a third time that day six months.

Mr. DENMAN could assure the House, that no Bill that had ever been brought into the House had been so strictly canvassed by the humble individual who addressed them at the present.—His Honourable and Learned Friend, by whom it was introduced, knew that to his cost, for he (Mr. Denman) had certainly given his Honourable and Learned Friend a great deal of trouble on the subject; and he could now most conscientiously say, that every objection which could be made to the Bill had been effectually removed. He could assure the House, that notwithstanding the auspices under which the Bill had been introduced, unless he were perfectly satisfied of the safety, of the expediency, he would almost say of the necessity of the measure, no party consideration or personal attachment should induce him to vote for it. Most of the objections which the Hon. and Learned Gentleman opposite had urged were against the concessions which his Honourable and Learned Friend had been induced to make in the Bill. The friends of the Bill had abandoned nothing which they felt they could retain with safety to the Bill. They thought it advisable to obtain all they could, since they could not obtain all they wished. It was not fair, therefore, in the Honourable

and Learned Gentleman to charge his Hon. and Learned Friend with that which he had been compelled reluctantly to do. The only question was, whether the measure, mutilated as it was, was not preferable to the existing state of the law? But although the Honorable and Learned Gentleman had dwelt for some time on the exceptions which had been introduced into the Bill, he at last met the question fairly on the principle of the measure. The Honorable and Learned Gentleman maintained that it was consistent with the principle and the spirit of the English law, to affix to every class of crimes the most severe punishment that ought to be inflicted on the most heinous of those crimes. He protested in the strongest manner against this doctrine. In the common law there was nothing like it.—In the statute law, perplexing and contradictory as it was, there was no such pervading principle. It was as inconsistent with law as it was with reason and good sense. There was, perhaps, no class of crimes of which some individual instance might not be of such an aggravated nature as to be considered deserving of the punishment of death. The crime of robbing bleaching grounds, when it was perpetrated by an envious neighbour or an unfaithful servant, might be deemed worthy of death; but ought the punishment of death to be affixed generally by the law to that crime, on that account? To the question, whether the punishment of death deterred from the perpetration of crime, it was answered on the opposite side that it did, by the terror which it excited; by the advocates for the Bill it was answered, that it did not, because the terror operated on prosecutors. Let the House refer to the great body of evidence from practical individuals, attached to the report of the Committee on this subject, and then say whether any man but him who adhered to old systems merely because they were old, could deny that the existence of the punishment of death deterred individuals from prosecuting for forgery. All the principal merchants and bankers in the City of London had given testimony to that effect. Such being the truth, in what way ought a wise legislature to proceed? Ought it not to avail itself of the fact thus discovered? The proposition of his Honorable and Learned Friend for substituting imprisonment and hard labour appeared to him to be most wise and expedient. At the same time he confessed that he could not go alone with his Honorable Friend the Member of Shrewsbury, and those who thought that, on account of the abuses connected with the punishment of transportation, that punishment was not most severe. It should be recollected, that most of those persons who were betrayed into the commission of forgery had domestic connexions, a separation from which for life was a punishment too severe not to operate strongly in deterring others from similar crimes. He would not detain the House longer. It was by no means a lawyer's question. The Bill had great authority on its side. If there were only his Honorable and Learned Friend, and his talents and laborious investigation in his favour, it would be sufficient. But it was not his Honorable and Learned Friend alone. There was the great body of practical men who had been examined by the Committee. But it was to his Honorable Friend near him (we presume Mr. Buxton) to whom the country was principally indebted for the shape which the Bill at present assumed; and he (Mr. Deaman) felt the greatest pride and satisfaction in expressing his gratitude to his hon. friend for the noble effort which his honorable friend had recently made on this most interesting subject. Never had a speech been made within those walls more replete with wisdom, and with a greater tendency to practical benefit. Never had the genuine spirit of Christianity been more unaffectedly displayed in a public assembly—not in puffing off its own pharisaical purity, but in suggesting every motive which could influence men, to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly before their common Father and Lord. (*Hear, hear, hear.*)

Mr. DENT observed, that the present Bill was considered an experiment. Now the term "experiment" implied a doubt of success, and in this case a failure would be productive of much greater evils than those which the measure was intended to remedy.

Mr. WILMOT said he would have opposed the Bill if the anomalous distinction between forgery on the Bank of England and forgery on country banks and private individuals had not been removed. Adverting to the punishment of transportation, he observed that every body allowed that it was practically inoperative. It was an additional reason with him, therefore, in voting for this Bill, that it would compel the Legislature to look out for some secondary punishment more effectual. He thought nothing so likely to deter from crime as the punishment of hard labour for a term of years, combined with as plain and moderate food as was consistent with the support of life. On the whole, therefore, he was quite content to adopt the measure, even with the practical difficulties which might perhaps attend its execution.

Mr. MARRYATT adverted to the Petition presented that evening from the Bankers of London and Westminster, praying that the same punishment should be awarded to the forgers of other notes as to those of the notes of the Bank of England; and maintained its justice. Of all negotiable paper, that of the Bank of England was, in his opinion, the least entitled to exclusive protection.

Mr. CRIPPS (as we understood) concurred in the opinions of the Honorable Gentleman who had just spoken.

A MEMBER under the Gallery (whose name we could not learn) opposed the measure.

Mr. J. SMITH said, he did not wish to protract the debate, yet he felt it necessary to offer a few observations upon this question. His own experience had furnished him with many instances in which the severity of punishment had prevented prosecutions for forgeries on private banks. But the severity with which Bank of England forgeries had been punished, had not been found effective in preventing the commission of that crime, and therefore he knew no reason why the Bank of England should enjoy greater protection than private banks. It was said that here was a greater number of forgeries on the Bank of England than on private banks, but this arose solely from the superior execution of the country notes, and from the very great facility with which those of the Bank of England were imitated. He should support the Bill, hoping that some amendments would be introduced by his Hon. and Learned Friend (Sir J. Mackintosh.)

Mr. PEARSE defended the Bank from the imputations which had been cast upon it both in and out of doors. He hoped that a clause would be introduced in the Bill, for the purpose of making a difference between the buyer and seller of Forged Notes. The latter was, generally speaking, a poor needy creature, whereas the former was a person who supplied a great part of the kingdom with this forged paper. It was time that the 1l. and 2l. notes were now gradually going out of circulation, by which forgery would of course be diminished; but it would remain to be seen whether the circulation of gold would not open a door to another evil, namely, the false coining of sovereigns and other coins.

After a few words from Mr. MILLS and Mr. LOCKHART,

Mr. BARING said, that what was most wanted in this country was an effective secondary punishment for the first offence of this nature. It was a known fact, that more forgeries were committed in this country in one year, than in all the other countries of Europe. If this was the case, it must arise from something defective in our laws. In Holland, forgery was not a capital offence; by the French code it was not punished capitally, and in Amsterdam it was considered an offence of an insignificant nature. What was the case here? There was an alternative between transportation and death. To a desperate man, who had set his life upon a cast to retrieve his fortune, the instantaneous punishment of death was not likely to prevent the commission of crime; but if the operations of men's minds were analysed, it would be found that a punishment of ten years hard labour would operate powerfully in preventing men from placing themselves in a situation of such jeopardy. Whatever might be the exceptions to the Bill, he would support it, under an impression that as far as it went it would be productive of certain good.

Mr. H. DAVIES opposed the motion in its present shape.

Mr. T. WILSON, in answer to an observation made by the hon. and learned Mover of the Bill (Sir J. Mackintosh), stated, that the Petition from the Bankers and Merchants of London was not in favour of this Bill. They only prayed that forgeries on private banks or of bonds or other securities, and forgeries of Bank of England Notes, should be punished in the same manner. Gentlemen had spoken of the law with respect to forgeries in Holland. It was true that in that country the crime of forgery was punished with confinement and hard labour. But what was the nature of that punishment? A man had a certain quantity of logwood to ship, and if he failed to do so he was put into a room into which there was a running stream, and he was obliged to keep a continual pumping to keep himself from being covered with water. Was this, he would ask, a punishment which ought to be introduced into this country?

Mr. HARBORD supported the original motion.

Mr. R. MARTIN supported the Bill. He contended that the certainty of having ten years' imprisonment inflicted on the fabricators and utterers of forged notes was much more likely to deter them from the commission of the crime of forgery than the present state of the law, which, from the humanity of Jurors, the reluctance of persons to come forward to prosecute, and various other circumstances, afforded to prisoners very great hopes of escaping punishment. As a proof of the state of public opinion respecting the present state of the law, the hon. gent. said, that a man (whose name he was in possession of) was recently pointed out to him, in a public tavern in London, as having, about thirteen years since, prosecuted an intimate friend of his for forgery. His friend was convicted and executed; the consequence was, that the prosecutor was obliged to leave his neighbourhood; and even after the lapse of thirteen years, he appeared to him (Mr. Martin) to be held an object of general execration. The case of that man was by no means a singular case—he believed there were many persons who sincerely though unavailingly regretted that they had been concerned in prosecutions for forgery.

After the Honourable Gentleman sat down, the House divided:—

For the third reading of the Bill, 117—For the Amendment 111—Majority for the Bill 6.

On the return of strangers to the Gallery, Sir J. Mackintosh was found proposing some verbal Amendments, which were agreed to.

Mr. CRIPPS proposed an Amendment to except out of the Bill all promissory notes and bills of exchange, drawn by, upon, or in favour of any banker or bankers.

Mr. BARING said, that the clause proposed by the Honourable Gentleman would affect every description of bills. In his (Mr. Baring's) opinion, it would have been much better to throw out the Bill altogether if the House were disposed to entertain the Amendment.

Dr. LUSHINGTON said, that a country banker of extensive business requested him to state to the House, that forgery to the amount of 10,000*l.* had been committed on his bank, and that in consequence of the present state of the law, he could not reconcile it to his feelings to prosecute. The words of his letter, which he (Dr. Lushington) held in his hand, were, "we are put out of the pale of the law, and have no protection for our property." The Honourable and Learned Gentleman said, that the opinion of a banker of the first respectability ought to have much influence on the determination of the House. Persons most interested joined with the public in calling for an alteration of the law.

After a few words from Mr. Cripps and Mr. J. Martin, the House divided—

For Mr. Cripps's Amendment 109—Against it 102—Majority in favour of the Amendment 7

On our re-admission to the Gallery, we found

Mr. BROUGHAM on his legs, addressing the House. The Hon. able and Learned Gentleman said, that he heartily agreed with his Honourable and Learned Friend in the principle of the Bill, though perhaps he regretted that his Honourable and Learned Friend, in deference to the opinions of others, had made some important exceptions. He (Mr. Brougham) heartily supported the measure, and when it should receive the sanction of the House, he hoped it would be received elsewhere with that attention which was due to a measure so important, and which had undergone in that House so much consideration. He regretted that the Noble Lord had made that stage of the Bill the cause of discussion and debate. Under the circumstances he felt it his duty not to give a silent vote in favour of the Bill.

The House then divided on the question that the Bill do pass.

Ayes, 115—Noes, 121—Majority against the Bill, 6.

VINDICATE BRITANNICÆ.—BY CHRISTOPHILUS.

A Series of Letters, addressed to Mr. Wilberforce, has been recently published in a pamphlet, under this title: its object is to vindicate the people from the charge of blasphemy, and to defend the freedom of the press.—The Author is evidently a liberal and a learned man, and his book is altogether a very interesting one.—If he has not succeeded in shaking Mr. Wilberforce's faith in the wisdom and virtue of Ministers by his admirable exposure, nothing short of a miracle, we think, can be expected to work a change in the sentiments of the "Vital Christian."—In the practices of our Rulers, the Author thinks he discovers a far greater tendency to blasphemy, than in those of the people; and among others, he notices the scandalous system of filling up the Magistracy from the Clerical body; "which imposes on them (he says) the ungracious task of dispensing common law, an office naturally thankless in the eyes of the people, and peculiarly opposed to the charity and passive virtues of what *should* be the character of the Christian Minister; an employment which wastes that time which it steals from visiting the poor, the sick, and the dying, on the mysteries of *Burn's Justice*, now become more necessary than the study and explanation of the Bible; which perplexes them with the inconsistency of praying for the safety of their flocks on the Sunday, and committing them to prison for a violation of the game laws on Monday; which has notoriously made the Clerical Character an object of political and personal antipathy in every village throughout the country; and which has associated with the library of his parsonage-house, feelings appropriate only to the purlieus of Bow-street.—Ye Professors of the Gospel, (he exclaims) who thus commit adultery with the world, read that Epistle of the Gentile Apostle to the Corinthian Church, whose deacons he counselled: 'If then ye have judgements of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the Church.' And if the Secretary of State for the Home Department reads his Bible, as he professes, mark the insult he thus offers, in thus pointing you out as the *least* esteemed in the Church!"

ON THE RIGHT OF THOSE WHO PAY DIRECT TAXES TO THE ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.

No man who dispassionately considers the springs of human action, or who contemplates the paramount influence of self-interest upon individual conduct, can reasonably expect that a Reform in Parliament, or a general extension of the Elective Franchise will be ever seriously attempted by the Parliament itself.

The formation of a House of Commons of the present day, is so directly at variance with every principle of its original constitution—with every rational idea of a free and general representation of the community—and with the main object for which a representative government is worth the preserving, namely, the protection of the many against the power of the few, that it were a waste of time to enter into particulars upon these points. The thousands of instances which might be adduced corroborative of these positions would weary the attention, and by their very multitude would confound the clearness of the public apprehension and conviction.

The general interference of the Peers in the elections of Members to the Commons, in the face of their own declarations against such interference; the seating of officers of the government, of placemen and pensioners in the very teeth of legislative enactments; and the general traffic in places, are matters of such notoriety as to be openly avowed and even defended in Parliament. But all these incongruities are of such extreme absurdity, they are so opposed to the plainest dictates of common sense, that doubtless the future historian will either dispute their existence or discuss the reasons which could induce a great nation, accounted sensible and brave, to submit so long to the dictation of six or seven hundred individuals so brought together. This body of men, together with the House of Peers, claim the right (no doubt constitutionally) to order the amount of taxation, direct and indirect, which shall be levied upon several millions of their countrymen; and to enact laws affecting their lives and personal liberties.

The assent of the King to the enactments of the two Houses, especially in matters of taxation, being *constitutionally* certain, we need not consider him at present but as the instrument of, or as represented by his Ministers. We will not enter into a discussion of the original and equal rights of every member of the community; or into a disquisition how it happened that men originally and equally free, were induced to sacrifice their original liberties for the happiness of a state of society in which the power is chiefly on one side and the subjection on the other. We will not inquire into the effects of the long continued operations of united fraud and force in destroying the general liberties of mankind in most countries and ages. Our present object is with the *Taxation* in this country, and with that alone. Nor do we mean to inflame the passions of men by general charges of corruption against the Ministry and Parliament, but we will coolly appeal to their common understanding. In proportion as that is convinced will be the determinate, but legal and peaceable endeavours of those who are called upon to pay the taxes, to obtain their just and ancient right of the elective franchise. The Ministers and Parliament of this time are probably not more corrupt than Ministers and Members would be at any other period during the continuation of the present system. Whilst the people permit that system to exist, and are so insensate as to support it by continuing willingly to pay the taxes ordered under it, how can they they suppose those whose means of existence, or whose rank and splendour are upheld only so long as the system lasts, shall lend their assistance to its destruction? Shall the fire cease to devour, or the tiger to hunt his prey? The corruption is not in the Government and Parliament; they act by *instinct*, as *Falstaff* did; the corruption is in the principle of the body of housekeepers in this country, who supinely sacrifice their inherent rights, and those of their posterity, to present ease and luxury; who pay their taxes without so much as legally meeting together in their respective parishes to inquire into the nature of that *divine right* by which one set of men order others their equals what they shall pay and what do. The corruption is in those who basely surrender their inherent, their indisputable, their constitutional rights, so that they may enjoy in inglorious ease what the Parliament and Government choose to leave to them, after exacting millions that are not applied to any efficient, necessary or useful national purpose. The corruption is in those who say, "Let us live in the land of Egypt, where we have lentils and potherbs to suffice," whilst their country is on the borders of anarchy and civil war; and division is fomented to madness by mutual recrimination of conspiracy and faction between the governors and the governed. Let the housekeepers of the country awake from their lethargy, and at once assert their equal determination to support the ancient constitution of this country, as composed of King, Peers, and Commons, against all attempts to subvert it; and to recover, by every legal means, their general right to the elective franchise. Let them consider how they may avoid by legal and quiet methods the payment of rates and taxes, until they obtain a House of Commons freely elected by and from the people who are to be taxed.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—557—

Stanzas.

By heaven! thou hast an eye as bright
As ever eye was sworn to be;
And all who flutter round its light
Must catch the flame—and fall like me!
Yet, be the giddy moth's my lot
Who sinks, tho' scorched, entranced and calm;
For, by the melting taper caught,
He finds at once his bane and balm.
If then, the senseless taper heal
Its dazzled victim, let me live
And, when thine eyes their lightning deal,
Oh! melt, and cure the wound they give!

Indian News.

Madras, October 3.—We have been informed that a Revolution has taken place at Goa:—The Constitution has been proclaimed, and a Junta of five of the most respectable Inhabitants have taken upon themselves the Government. The Vice Roy has been suspended—but treated with all possible respect.—*Gazette.*

Madras, October 3, 1821.—We have the pleasure to announce the arrival of the Ship *ANDROMEDA* from London. She left the Downs on the 9th of June. A small Packet has been received by her, containing about 100 letters. We have been so fortunate as to receive our despatches from the 30th of May to the 6th of June inclusive. No very important intelligence has been received by this Vessel.

Madras, Oct. 2, 1821.—We daily expect the arrival of the remaining Ships from England, which are bound for this Port before the setting in of the Monsoon. There is but little time now left before the period will arrive when our roads are usually deserted by the Shipping. At present the weather continues very moderate, though some heavy thunder storms from the North West have lately visited the Presidency.

The homeward bound Ships *HEBE* and *MOFFAT* have not yet made their appearance, although they both left the river early in the last month. They probably met with strong Southerly winds at the head of the Bay.

His Majesty's Ship *LEANDER* is expected here immediately; she will remain only twelve hours in the roads, and then proceed to Penang for the Admiral.—*Courier.*

Calcutta, October 19, 1821.—On Wednesday, accounts reached town of an action having taken place on the 1st instant, between a portion of our troops stationed in Rajpootana, and the Military Force of the Kotah Rajah, whose conduct lately has rendered it necessary for the British authorities there to interfere in behalf of Zalim Sing, the officiating manager of that part of the country. The following are the particulars which we gather from private letters written on the day after the engagement.

All endeavours to settle affairs amicably by negotiation having failed, the British force and the troops of Raj Rana Zalim Sing were put in motion on the 1st instant at half past three o'clock in the morning, to attack the Enemy. It was judged expedient that the troops of Zalim Sing should be made principals in the onset, or at least that they should take their full share in measures of hostility. On coming in front of the Enemy it was found that they had two guns and about 5000 men, and had taken up their position in which they were to wait the attack. Their Cavalry was stationed on the right, and their Infantry was distributed in broken detachments for about three quarters of a mile on the left, covered in front by a tank. They all appeared determined on death or victory, and allowed the combined troops to take what position they pleased, without condescending to fire a shot. Their whole camp and baggage were allowed to remain standing, as if nothing like defeat was to be at all anticipated. A nullah and broken ground were in their rear.

Our Force consisted of two weak battalions of Infantry; three squadrons of the 4th and three of the 5th Light Cavalry, with ten light field pieces. Six companies of the 5th N. I. a

squadron of the 4th Light Cavalry and four guns were detached to attack and turn the Enemy's left, and eventually to cut off their anticipated flight towards the south. The remainder of the troops were drawn up on the right of Raj Rana Zalim Sing's men. The action was commenced by the Artillery of the latter, aided by six pieces of ours under Captain Campbell within 350 yards. The Maha Rao's obstinacy was soon subdued, indeed the bravest troops could not have stood against such artillery beyond a few minutes. Unfortunately Zalim Sing's fire could not be stopped till too late by at least a quarter of an hour, so that our troops were thus prevented either from charging or pursuing the Enemy as might have been wished.

At length, when it did cease, the whole line moved forward, and Major Ridge, with two squadrons of the 4th Cavalry, soon approached the Maha Rao's Cavalry. The latter stood firm. Major R. immediately formed and charged with three troops, leaving one in reserve. The contest was desperate, and two of his Officers fell on the spot.—Lieutenants Clark and Reade. He was himself wounded by a sabre in the head, had his Orderlies killed, one valuable Horse killed, and another desperately wounded.

Major Kennedy with the Horse Artillery arrived immediately after, and soon drove the Enemy beyond reach. They were pursued till twelve o'clock by all the troops, and till near evening by the Irregular Horse. Two guns were taken with a great deal of baggage, and the whole encampment as it stood. Phirte Sing, the Maha Rao's younger brother, was wounded and taken prisoner. Many of the Enemy's chiefs also fell in the engagement, but their loss was not what it would have been, had not the movements of our Force been cramped by the Irregulars. The loss on our side is stated at 13 killed and 22 wounded.

By accounts from the Upper Provinces we learn, that the River was higher off Cawnpore, on the 27th ultimo, than it had been ever known to be before. The Indigo in those high districts has been much damaged by excess of rain. The Cholera, it is stated, carried off 3000 persons lately in Fettehghur, and it had attacked Agra and Delhi. It has now however disappeared.

Our letters from Allahabad mention, that notwithstanding the clashing of the Native Festivals during the present season, the Mohurram had passed over there quickly. At first there was an appearance of riot between the parties of Hindoos and Musselmans, but the shew of two field pieces in the town, where they were stationed some days, kept all quiet. The Musselmans, in order to testify that they had no wish to create disturbances, declined carrying their tajeas at all; and it is even whispered, that they acknowledge the custom to be contrary to the Koran, and for that reason they are resolved not again to practise it. How far this is true time will determine.—*John Bull.*

Lieutenant H. Jonathan Reade, and Lieutenant and Adjutant John Clerke, both of the 4th Light Cavalry, were the two Officers who fell in the engagement with a party of Horse, mentioned in our yesterday's evening sheet. These two promising young Officers were killed in the charge made by their Corps.—We regret to add that Major Ridge's wound is of a severe nature.

The *MADRAS*, Captain Wallden, may be expected to arrive daily. We understand that a plan of her accommodations is in the hands of Messrs. McClintock, Morton and Co. and as she is a new and very fine Ship, and will be ready to return to England by the end of December, she will afford a particularly favorable opportunity for Families or Individuals about to visit England. The well known urbanity and attention which distinguish the Commander, cannot fail to insure his Passengers all the comforts possible to be obtained on board ship.—*Hurkaru.*

PRICE OF BULLION.

Spanish Dollars,.....	Sicca Rupees	205	9	a	205	10	per 100
Doublons,.....		30	4	a	30	8	each
Joes, or Pezas,.....		17	4	a	17	5	each
Dutch Ducats,.....		4	4	a	4	12	each
Louis D'Ors,.....		8	4	a	8	6	each
Silver 5 Franc pieces,.....		191	4	a	191	8	per 100
Star Pagodas,.....		3	6	a	3	7	6 each

LETTER V.

Adawlut System of India.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I have endeavoured to describe the *caste* and character of men from whom the first King's Court established in India ought to have been selected, in order to give fair play to that Institution. Some will think the delineation too highly coloured even for the important experimental occasion to which it refers. Others, agreeing in the expediency of appointing such men, will be of opinion that they were not easily to be found among the qualified Barristers of 5 years standing, even if the Minister had been willing to sacrifice patronage on the altar of public good, or such a *Lusus* could be imagined as a Chancellor unbackneyed in the ways of Law and Politics, devoting himself to the generous search after indigent Philosophy, and obscure Accomplishment among the unknown and pining crowd that inhabit the purlieus of Pump-Court, or the vicinity of the Rolls' Chapel. I shall not retrace trodden ground, nor appeal to the lamentable failure of the Supreme Court as it was originally composed, to prove to the former class of objectors how indispensable to success, was the most fastidious selection of individual Judges: nor shall I do violence to my own strong feelings of predilection for a noble profession, which has numbered among its ranks so many honest patriots—so many great, accomplished, and good men—by endeavouring to satisfy objectors of the other description, that men every way fitted for their task, might have been drawn forth from an overcrowded Bar by the diligence of anxious and disinterested search. I have a readier answer to both classes of doubters in the single instance of one illustrious man, who may be named without invidiousness towards living excellence, because he is no more,—and without disparagement to any, because take him for all in all, he had no equal—Sir WILLIAM JONES.

Quis desiderio sit pudor aut modus

Tam cari capitis?

— cui Pudor, et Justitiæ soror

Incorrupta Fides, nudaque veritas

Quando ullum invenient parem?

If Sir WILLIAM JONES, or a person of disposition and attainments similar, though inferior in degree and extent to those which marked his great mind, had presided on a Bench composed of Judges holding kindred qualifications for office, who will doubt that this great Experiment in Jurisprudence committed to such hands, would have succeeded?

The transactions of the Supreme Court during the melancholy period of near ten years which elapsed before Parliament interfered to deprive them of powers which they had registered their own incapacity to wield with efficacy, moderation, or benefit to India, are now matter of history, and may be discussed like other events long passed by us, not only without offence—for the Actors are all numbered with the dead—but with profit, as authenticated records of human imperfection, holding out useful lessons to arbitrary power and avarice, and equally instructive warnings to presumption and precipitancy in the honest Zealots of Reform. The Parliamentary Reports of those transactions—backed by a mass of irresistible evidence documentary and parole, do honour to their distinguished Author; and shew beyond question or controversy that the Supreme Court with the powers it originally held, and administered as they were, had in fact become a nuisance which it was necessary should be abated. These Reports are in every one's hands, and the subject has been commented on by Mr. Mill with great force and ability, though alloyed somewhat with the tinge of his peculiar if not impracticable notions on all questions relating to Evidence and the forms of Justice. It is unnecessary therefore that I should take up the detail of all the errors, not to say vices, which marked the early career of the Supreme Court. A few facts however may be briefly noticed, as having led more immediately to the Parliamentary Reformation of the Court, and the removal of the Chief Justice.

At the head and front of these, inasmuch as it was peculiarly revolting to the feelings of all Europe, stood the execution of NUNDCOOMAR, under the English Statute of Forgery, then declared for the first time by the Court applicable to India, though the act for which he suffered was committed before the Laws of England were legally declared in force among the Natives, or the Court had an existence, and although NUNDCOOMAR was not domiciled in Calcutta, but held there in dross by Government at the time of the forgery. The *esprit du corps* of his brethren at home enabled the Chief Justice to escape from all but the ignominy of an act, which to every honest English understanding bore the character of a judicial murder. To this qualified escape however he was legally entitled; for there can be no doubt that the fault chiefly lay with Parliament, which had in fact permitted the Judges to use the absolute discretion of declaring by an *ex-post-facto* process on each Case as it came judicially before them, what law of England was or was not applicable to India: a discretion to be delegated to no man or body of men, and of which the flagrant abuse might easily have been foreseen. There can be no legal doubt then, that the Court had the power by law, to hang for forgery, to transport to "the plantations" for bigamy, or even to burn for witchcraft,* if not heresy, and a thousand similar absurdities equally inapplicable to Indian Society. But although this culpable laxity of designation, and careless granting of undefined and therefore arbitrary power, was then, and continues to be still an opprobrium in Legislation which marks too many English enactments regarding India, yet there is a limit to its practical abuse, to be found in the bosoms of honest men and superior Authorities in England; and this the Chief Justice found to his cost. Still it is difficult to say why the storm of indignation should have fallen on his head alone, when two at least of his brethren were equally implicated in the foul transaction; and it is a memorable proof of the precariousness and inutility of the few slender guards provided against the most flagrant abuse of distant power perpetrated under colour of Law, that this Judge was not recalled for the revolting execution of NUNDCOOMAR, and even escaped from Impeachment for that act. He was dismissed (at least ostensibly) for the comparatively trivial offence of degrading his Royal Commission by accepting Salary and Office under the Company's Government, several years after! The Tempter—at least in the last case,—was Warren Hastings, for whom the same excuse may perhaps fairly be offered that availed him in his defence against many heavier accusations, that he could not carry on the government in times of peril and difficulty, without *buying off* the harrassing, powerful, and unceasing opposition of the Judges, and their alarming interference and systematic encroachments on the peace of the country. It has been often and loudly charged against that distinguished person, that he was indirectly necessary to the judicial murder of NUNDCOOMAR; and if this were indeed proved, it would form a stain on his character not to be effaced by a thousand times his merits and services to the state. But notwithstanding the circumstance on which this accusation mainly rests,—that NUNDCOOMAR when indicted was busily employed in marshalling charges of corruption against Hastings before the willing and not impartial Tribunal of his own refractory Council,—it does not seem at all probable that the Judges who were in violent dissention with the whole Government, would have lent themselves to so questionable and hazardous an act, for the gratification of private malice in the chief of their opponents. I wish I could satisfy myself equally well that Mr. Hastings endeavoured to save the miserable victim; a step which would have told infinitely to the honour of his heart, and not a little to the credit of his impugned purity. It seems unlikely that his proasing instances with the Judges would have failed, backed as they could not but have been, by the personal efforts of his enemies, the majority in Council, and by the alarm which might easily have been kindled in the minds of the Judges, by forcible representations from Government on the doubtful

* I think there was a Conviction at Norfolk for Witchcraft so late as 1717; and those Laws though long in disuse, continued to disgrace our Statute Books, for 60 or 70 years later.

legality and apprehended danger to the public peace from the step about to be taken.

On a later occasion, it was seen with what efficacy the powers of Government could be brought to bear against the legal usurpations of the Court. In the famous Cossijurah case, when the country was ravaged by a horde of barbarous Europeans, under the orders of the Sheriff, who in execution of a writ were perpetrating violence on the persons and property of the Rajah's family, Mr. Hastings did not hesitate to incur the penalties of rebellion and armed resistance to the Royal Authority by causing Colonel Ironside at Midnapore to protect the Natives, to surround the legal ruffians and send them down prisoners to Calcutta. This procedure brought matters to a crisis, and filled to overflowing the cup of dissension between the Court and Government. It was the more immediate origin of the subsequent Parliamentary interference, tho' scarcely more absurd, or incompatible with good order, public peace, and the preservation of India, than many acts of like quality which had preceded it. Such were that celebrated tissue of legal folly and iniquity, usually called "the Patna Cause," which required an Act of Parliament to unravel it and liberate the surviving sufferers; the denial of "corporate" and therefore legal existence to the Provincial Administrations; direct and litigious interference with the Revenue; the refusal to acknowledge the theory (absurd indeed but competent) of the double or Nawab's Government; the Military interference in the Dacca case; the assumed superiority of the Court over the Government by calling for its Books and Functionaries to be forth-coming in Court; and though last not certainly least, the determined opposition of the Judges to the unanimous cry and petitions of the whole European population. Civil and Military, that Civil cases involving necessarily so many questions of person and property dear to all, should be heard and determined with the assistance of a Jury, instead of being left to the more arbitrary decision of three or four Individuals, who ought to have been anxious to concur, if virtuous and disinterested, in desiring to escape from an invidious office unknown to Common-law English Judges in better times.

It is remembered by many, and known to all who look back with interest to the annals of those troubled times, how great a ferment was excited in India, and still more in England, by the course of weakness if not wickedness, of which the leading points have now been noticed. But it must not be inferred from the magnitude or folly of that catalogue, that no good was accomplished by the Supreme Court, arbitrary and ill-defined as its powers were, and badly as they were administered. In ordinary cases which were regularly brought before that Tribunal, where no offence of *lese majesté* was committed, by the endeavours of either party to avoid the jurisdiction, or resist the severe and absurd preliminary processes of the Court or its ministers, in all such cases there is reason to believe, that fair and impartial Justice was distributed between man and man. A great and useful example therefore was so far set, of extraordinary tenderness, and patient attention towards Criminals, and of the fullest and fairest investigation of every Civil suit, which the talents or industry of an independent Bar and equitable Bench could bring forth. In their personal capacities, in Chambers, or as Justices of the Peace, there is no doubt that the Judges devoted themselves to the protection of the poor man and of the Native, against the domineering and oppression of the rich man and the European, with great patience, zeal, and justice; and it is but due to individuals who have been so freely but impartially censured for their faults, to declare in this place my belief, that many of their errors appear to have arisen from the strangeness and difficulties of their new and anomalous situation, and very many of those from a well meaning but excessive zealousness in defence as they conceived it, of the Natives, whom they were avowedly sent to protect,—not merely against the supposed oppressions of the Company's Servants, but against those of the Government itself. When these admissions in favor of the first Judges are taken into account, and allowed for largely, as they ought to be, the balance of good will appear to preponderate considerably in favor of the institution of the King's Court in India, even in its

earliest and worst days. It established for the first time a wholesome and efficient check,—and the only one even at this day—against the otherwise absolute powers—executive, legislative, judicial and commercial—vested in the Local Administration; it brought in its train the liberty of speaking and printing, before unknown—and never palatable to power; and it made a beginning of that reign of Law and Justice which is destined in the fulness of time to prevail in every Dependency of the British Empire. Even the coldness, or, to speak plainly, the jealousy and dislike, which naturally arose between the individuals composing those two great and clashing Bodies which had to revolve in one common orbit, were not without their utility in the eyes of the Indian world, and were in consonance with that old English Constitutional feeling, of which the appearances at least are still jealously preserved at home, and which make it—or till lately made it—an indecorous thing for a Judge to appear at Court, or cultivate familiarity with the great Executive Officers of the State. That these feelings on the part of the first Judges, were at first pushed to an indecent excess, is true; but that state of things was infinitely preferable to the reverse of the picture, which followed on Mr. Hastings's sagacious plan,—which he avowed in Council, and gloried in—of attaching the Judges to the interests of Government by Places and Salaries. Then indeed the Court sunk beyond recovery in public estimation; and this it was which roused effectually the storm of indignation in England, and led by a usual reaction to measures which were precipitate, and inadequate to meet the real evils of the Indian Judicial System—measures which at one time threatened with destruction an Institution noble and useful at bottom, and which is destined ultimately to bring to maturity the germs of substantial Justice and the reign of good Laws, which that Court certainly had the merit of first introducing in India.

September 30, 1821.

PHILOPATRIS.

Military Arrivals and Departures.

Weekly List of Military Arrivals at, and Departures from, the Presidency.

Arrivals.—Lieutenant Colonel J. L. Richardson, 2d Battalion 14th Native Infantry, from Europe.—Superintending Surgeon Alexander Russell, from Berhampore.—Major E. Edwards, 2d Battalion 8th Madras Native Infantry, from Madras.—Captain W. Middleton, 2d Battalion 16th Native Infantry, from Asseergurh.—Captain R. Powney, Commissary of Ordnance, from Delhi.—Captain W. Hiatt, 2d Battalion 14th Native Infantry, from Europe.—Captain E. B. Craigie, Deputy Judge Advocate General, from Cawnpore.—Captain H. Weston, 2d Battalion 19th Native Infantry, from Europe.—Captain J. Tulloch, 1st Battalion 29th Native Infantry, from Secorah.—Captain H. L. White, 19th Native Infantry, Officiating Major of Brigade, Dinapore, from Cuttack.—Lieutenant W. Buchanan, 4th Light Cavalry, from Neemuch.—Lieutenant T. M. Taylor, 5th Light Cavalry, from Nusseerabad.—Lieutenant G. H. Thomas, 7th Madras Light Cavalry, from Madras.—Lieutenant C. T. Thomas, 1st Battalion 11th Native Infantry, from the Mauritius.—Lieutenant A. L. Swanston, 1st Battalion 16th Native Infantry from Sea.—Lieutenant G. P. Agar, 2d Battalion 25th Native Infantry, from Nusseerabad.—Ensign R. Somerville, 2d Battalion 21st Native Infantry, from Lucknow.—Artillery Cadets T. P. Ackers and P. W. Barton; Cavalry ditto G. A. Barbor, C. Newbery and E. Horsely; Infantry ditto J. Whiteford, J. Macdonald, A. Macdonald, G. Wood and W. Innes; and Assistant Surgeons F. Gold and C. B. Francis, from Europe.

Departures.—Captain J. Anderson, 2d Battalion 27th Native Infantry, to Berhampore.—Surgeon W. Thomas, 1st Battalion 1st Regiment of Native Infantry, to Cawnpore.—Lieutenant W. Glasgow, 1st Battalion 2d Regiment of Native Infantry, to Bandah.

Administrations to Estates.

Mr. WILLIAM JAMISON, late of Calcutta Wine Merchant, deceased—WILLIAM AINSLIE, Esq.

ALEXANDER MACLEAN, Esq. an Assistant Surgeon on the Honorable Company's Bengal Military Establishment, deceased—JAMES CALDER, Esq.

Captain HENRY PETER AUBER, late of Calcutta Mariner, deceased—JAMES CALDER, Esq.

GUGUN SING, late of Calcutta, deceased—WILLIAM HOWARD PEACH, Esq.

Extract from Norman.*Pain of Lover's Separation.*

What tie like sympathy can bind?
That melancholy mood of mind,
That in her look at times appeared,
To me Matilda more endeared.
Her smile of love my bosom warmed,
Her kindness soothed, her converse charmed;
The light of her affection cast
Oblivion's shadow o'er the past;
And all around a halo threw,
That hid the future from my view.
Love o'er us hung on resting wing,
I thought not of what pangs would wring
My heart, when doomed from her to sever,
And we are parted now for ever—
Tho' death was in the cup, the draught
Was sweet, and in delirium quaffed;
Drained to the dregs—and in my veins
The mortal venom yet remains,
To poison every spring of joy,
To burn, to madden, to destroy.
We parted—and 'twas mine to feel
Such pangs as words can ne'er reveal—
Such pangs as few perhaps can know.
In agony the breast distending—
That suffocating sense of woe,
That swells the heart almost to rending.
It was a feeling deep and dread,
That chilled my bosom, when she said,
"Tis done! our days of joy are past,
And this farewell must be our last."
The hue of life her cheek forsook
Her voice was mournful as her look;
It had a heart-depressing tone,
Like some departing spirit's moan,
Flitting upon the midnight blast,
Above the scene of pleasures past.
But she is happy now—although
The memory of another's woe
May touch at times her gentle heart,
And to her mind a pang impart.
And oh! if beauty, truth, and worth,
May hope for happiness on earth,
Life's fairest flowers for her shall bloom,
And smiling Hope her path illumine.
And when the hour of parting comes,
When death each failing sense benumbs,
Affection's hand shall close her eyes,
And sister angels from above,
Bear her pure spirit to the skies,
To realms of everlasting love.

Stations of Vessels in the River.

OCTOBER 18, 1821.

At Diamond Harbour.—ORIENT, inward-bound, remains.*Kedgerie.*—INDIANA, on her way to Town,—FLORA, passed up.*New Anchorage.*—Honorable Company's Ships MARQUIS OF WELLINGTON, and THOMAS GRENVILLE,—CORNWALLIS,—SAO DOMINGOS ENEAS, (P.)*Sauger.*—JAMES SCOTT, outward-bound, remains,—CHARLES MILLS, gone to Sea.**Births.***At Pondicherry,* on the 18th ultimo, the Lady of Captain TURNER, of a Son.*At Padang,* on the West Coast of Sumatra, on the afternoon of the 9th of June, the Lady of JAMES DUPUY, Esq. Resident of that place, of a Son.**Shipping Arrivals.****CALCUTTA.**

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Oct. 19	Nymphen	Danish	P. S. Keirulf	Copenhagen	Mar. 25

MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Oct. 2	Tagus	British	E. Galloway	Porto Novo	Sept. 27
3	Andromeda	British		Dowry	June 9

Shipping Departures.**CALCUTTA.**

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Oct. 18	Ospray	British	A. McGill	Greenock

MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Sept. 29	Hastings	British	P. Butler	Isle of France
Oct. 2	Norfolk	British	D. Glass	Cuddalore

Passengers.

Passengers per ANDROMEDA, from London to Madras.—Captain H. Wilson, Bengal Service; Mr. W. Carter, Assistant Surgeon, ditto; Mr. J. Duncan, ditto; Mr. D. H. Rump; Mr. W. Barnfield, and Mr. Smith.

Passengers per SARAH, from London for Bombay.—Captain Heatly; Mrs. Heatly; Captain Pierce; Captain McKenzie; Captain Bromley; Mrs. Bromley; Mrs. King; Miss King; Miss Clarke; Miss Poole; Messrs. Chamier, and Le Geyt, Writers; Messrs. Rebeueck, Davis, Burns, McDonald, Short, Erskine, Phipps, Stockwell, Hungerford, Clay, and Bradford, Cadets; Messrs. Graham, and Burns, Assistant Surgeons.

Deaths.

At Madras, on the 26th ultimo, at his house in Town, Mr. WILLIAM URQUHART, aged 42 years. Mr. URQUHART arrived in 1794 from Calcutta his native country, and was creditably employed as Superintendent of the MADRAS GAZETTE PRESS until the year 1805, when he set up a Press of his own from which was issued that Periodical Publication the "MADRAS MONTHLY JOURNAL." He was the original Projector and principal Proprietor of the "COMMERCIAL CIRCULATOR," which publication he commenced in 1810, and in the same year compiled that valuable Work the "ORIENTAL ORITUARY."—Independent of those he printed a variety of Works in the Hebrew, Persian, Telooogo, Canaroe, and Malabar languages, all which reflect credit upon him.—Thus in his calling he has been always most actively and usefully employed. In his private character as a Husband and Father, he was most affectionately and tenderly loved—as a Friend, he was much esteemed and respected, and as a Benefactor resorted to with confidence by the poor and needy—as his life has been truly valuable to so many, his loss will be deeply and very extensively felt.

At Padang, on the West Coast of Sumatra, on the 16th of June, the infant Son of JAMES DUPUY, Esq. Resident of that place.

At Bombay, on the 13th ultimo, after a few day's indisposition, Mr. THEODOZE GOMES, Clerk of the Custom House, aged 40 years, leaving a disconsolate widow and children, and numerous relatives to lament his untimely loss.

At Hingnee, near Nagpore, on the 10th ultimo, Captain WILLIAMSON HUNTER, of the 1st Battalion 8th Regiment of Native Infantry, most sincerely and deservedly regretted by his friends and brother Officers.

At Negapatam, on the 19th of August, Captain A. CAMERON, of the Ketch MYRA of that port.

CURRENT VALUE OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

BUY	CALCUTTA.	SELL
9 12	New Loans,	9 8
14 2	Ditto Remittable,	13 14

HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA THIS DAY.

Morning,	11 14
Evening,	11 38

Moon's Age,	25 days
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